

MONDAY, 26TH AUGUST, 1878.

W. J. STEPHENS, M.A., President, in the Chair.

DONATIONS.

- I. Comptes Rendus Société Entomologique de Belgique, Série II., No. 52, from the Society.
- II. Journal of Conchology from the Editor.

PAPERS READ.

ON TWO NEW SPECIES OF LAND SHELLS,

By the Rev. J. E. TENISON-WOODS, F.L.S., F.G.S., Hon. Cor.
Mem. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.

Plate 12, Figs. 2. 3. 5.

The following new species were placed in my hands for description by Dr. James C. Cox, F.L.S. The first is from Tasmania. A medium sized form, very closely allied to *Helix atramentaria*, of the Dandenong Ranges, Victoria. In color, enamel, and the form of the embryo it is very similar, but it is smaller, more sloping, less discoid, and of fewer whorls. I have figured both species on the accompanying plate, so that the differences may be seen at a glance. It is very desirable that the animal should be studied, as the highly enamelled exterior surface, which is also smooth, renders it probable that the Victorian shell is also a *Helicarion*, with a caudal gland. The membranaceous edge makes it very probable. It should be observed that without a knowledge of the animals Albers* places our Australian *Vitrinae* as *Helicarion*. This genus was established by Ferussac in 1821, for the Australian *H. Freycineti* † G. B. Sowerby subsequently united it to *Vitrina*. Latreille, Blainville, and Sander Rang regarded it only as a sub-genus. Menke, in 1830, and Beck, in 1837, ‡ revived the genus, which is thus defined by Adams:—"Mantle with two free lobes in front on the

* *Die Heliceen*, Leipzig, 1860, 2 edit., by Von. Martens, p. 46. *Helicarion* is made a subgenus of *Nanina*, Gray.

† See *Voy. de Freycinet*, Zool., p. 465.

‡ Index Moll., Prince Christian Frederic, p. 2.

neck, and a large lobe on the right side covering the hind part of the shell; foot truncate posteriorly; shell rotundately oval, heliciform, thin, fragile, covered with a thin epidermis; spire short, aperture large, peritreme simple, acute, straight. The species of this genus have an extensive fold of the mantle developed on the right side. Their foot is truncate, and their shells are very thin." Vol. 2, p. 226. The general resemblance of this shell in color, &c., to those which are clearly of the genus *Helicarion*, induces me thus to classify it:—

HELICARION FUMOSA, n. s., Pl. 12, fig. 3, 3a.

H. t. umbilicata, turbinato-discoidea, tenuiuscula, politissima, lineis incrementi rugulosa, intensé fumoso-cornea vel subnigra, unicolor (apice excluso,) translucente; spira parum exserta, apice prominulo, sutura subtillissime corrugata; anfr. $3\frac{1}{2}$, rapide accrescentib. Embryonales $1\frac{1}{3}$, albid, ultimo valde declivo-rotundato, basi rotundata; apertura quasi orbiculata. Peristoma corneum, simplex, obtusum, incurvatum, marginibus ab umbilico usque ad $\frac{1}{3}$ ultimi anfractus disjunctis: Columella acuta, declivis. Umbilicus angustissimus, profundus.

Diam. maj. 22, min 14, alt 18, millim.

OBS. Sp. eleganter polita, et intense subnigra saturata, forma vero, colore et aspectu H. ATRAMENTARIE, Pfr. Dandenong Runge, Victoria incolanti, valde proxima.

Shell umbilicate, turbinately discoid, rather thin, highly polished, uneven from the lines of growth, intensely smoky horn color or nearly black throughout except at the apex, translucent, spire somewhat exsert, with the apex very slightly prominent, suture very finely corrugated; whorls $3\frac{1}{2}$ increasing rapidly; embryonal $1\frac{1}{3}$, whitish, last whorl largely rounded and sloping, aperture almost orbicular. Peristome horny, obtuse, incurved, margins disjoined from the umbilicus for about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the last whorl. Columella acute, sloping, umbilicus very narrow and deep.

This species is elegantly polished, and of an intense dark smoky brown, but in its shape, color, and general habit it is very close to *H. atramentaria*, Pfr. but that it is much smaller. There is a peculiar in-turning of the horny margin, which makes it rounded and blunt.

The next species is a very small shell from Victoria, closely resembling *H. mucosa* Cox of N.S.Wales.

HELIX MUCOIDES, n.s., Pl. 12, fig. 5, 5a.

H. t. minuta, late umbilicata, depressa, orbiculata, vix discoidea, solidiuscula, nitente vel quasi oleo inuncta, crebre corrugata, vel irregulariter striata, corneo-lutea, unicolor, translucens. Spira exserta, apice prominulo, obtuso. Sutura haud impressa. Anfr. $4\frac{1}{2}$, rotundatis, sensim accrescentibus, ultimo superne planato et obtuse carinato. Basi convexa, ut supra rugose striata sed subtiliori, et (sub lente tantum visis) subtilissime creberrimeque spiraliter liratis. Umbilico eprspectivo, vix $\frac{1}{3}$ diam. testa æquanti. Apertura subquadrata, intus pallidissime cæruleo-albida. Peristoma simplici, marginibus obtusis, haud approximatis, columella parum expansa et reflexa. Testa maculis fuliginosis magnis et irregularibus plus minusve insignita. Forma et colore *H. MUCOSÆ* proxima, minuta vero et inconspicua. Diam. maj. 3, min. $2\frac{1}{2}$, alt. $1\frac{1}{2}$ millim.

Shell minute, widely umbilicate, depressed, orbicular but hardly discoid, rather solid, shining as if from oil, very closely corrugated or irregularly striate, yellowish horn, of one uniform color and translucent. Spire exsert, apex slightly prominent, obtuse. Suture not impressed. Whorls $4\frac{1}{2}$, rounded, increasing gradually, the last flat above and obtusely keeled. Base convex and rugosely striate as above, but more finely, and under the lens seen to be closely, very finely spirally lirate. Umbilicus perspective, scarcely $\frac{1}{3}$ the diameter of the shell. Aperture subquadrate, a very pale blueish white within. Peristome simple with obtuse margins which are not approximate. Columella slightly expanded and reflected. The shell is more or less marked with large irregular sooty patches.

H. mucosa, which it resembles is a very rare shell, but much larger, and the rugose striæ are proportionately much smaller. With this shell was associated *H. melbournensis* Cox, and *H. julioidea* Cox. The latter is a Tasmanian species, but I could see no appreciable difference between the Melbourne specimens and those coming from Mount Wellington.

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES.

PLATE 12.

Fig. 2, 2a, *Helix atramentaria*, for comparison with fig. 3, 3a, *Helicarion fumosa*—both natural size.

Fig. 5, 5a, *Helix mucoides*, much enlarged.

On a new genus of POLYZOA. Pl. 13, fig., 1, 1a, 1b, 1c.

By the REV. J. E. TENISON-WOODS, F.L.S., &c.

The very interesting and curious genus which I now describe was dredged by the Hon. Wm. Macleay, F.L.S., off Darnley Island, at a depth of 10 or 20 fathoms, on coral mud. It belongs to the *Cheilostomatous* sub-order, but differs so completely from any of the described families that its affinities and relations must remain problematical until others are discovered, as no doubt in time there will be. The nearest family is the *Selenariadæ*, which has the polyzoary more or less orbicular, convex on one side, but there is no special modification of any organ in the manner seen in the species under consideration. Its singular beauty, both as regards design and ornament, renders it a remarkable addition to an order where beauty and variety are the rule. I shall distinguish the genus by the name *Euktimenaria*, from ἐκτίμενος, well built.

EUKTIMENARIA, new genus.

Polyzoary free, upper surface convex, covered with cells; lower surface divided into five portions, each containing large pores; in the centre of the base a vermiculate quinque-partite body.

EUKTIMENARIA DUCALIS. Pl. 13, fig. 1, 1a, 1b, 1c.

Convex, with pentagonal outline; the edge circumscribed by a raised margin of five arches, whence it descends to a broad pentagonal pedicel by five arched concave surfaces, which are horizontally divided in the centre by a straight raised double ridge, above and below the centre of which there is a large conspicuous pore; the pore above is semi-circular, that below is